An electric spark of low tension not capable of igniting the uninduced explosive mixture invariably does so, after the vibrating has been set up.

It is suggested that the tremor sent through the unignited gas synchronised some of the molecular vibrations, so that the molecules capable of reacting perform their translatory movements in some measure together, and that when a focus of inflammation is present more reacting molecules come into the sphere of inflammation in a given time, and therefore the rate of inflammation is more rapid.

XXX. "Note on Communication entitled 'Preliminary Note on a Balanoglossus Larva from the Bahamas' ('Roy. Soc. Proc.,' vol. 42, p. 146)." By W. F. R. Weldon, M.A. Communicated by Professor M. Foster, Sec.R.S. Received June 16, 1887.

In a paper, communicated to the Royal Society in March last, I described a series of Balanoglossus larvæ, found by me in the Bahama Islands. The series extended from a larva with one pair of gill-slits to a form resembling in many ways a normal Tornaria; but the differences between this larva and the normal European form were so great as to induce me to believe that a process of degeneration was going on, and that the Tornaria-like creature was the oldest, not the youngest, of the series.

On seeing my paper, Professor Spengel, whose researches on Balanoglossus are well known, wrote to me, informing me that I was altogether mistaken in my interpretation of the larvæ which I had found, and that my series belonged in fact to the normal order of development.

By the courtesy of Dr. Spengel I have been enabled to inspect his magnificent series of preparations, illustrating the whole life-history of Balanoglossus, and so to become convinced of the truth of his statement; I now, therefore, take the earliest opportunity of withdrawing my previous statement, and desire to express my regret at having placed such an erroneous doctrine on record in the 'Proceedings' of the Society.

I beg also to thank Dr. Spengel most sincerely for his kindness to me in this matter.